tional obedience, is the catch-word of tyrants of every deſcription, and to render 'aſſurance doubly ſure,' one kind of deſpotiſm ſupports another. Tyrants would have cauſe to tremble if reaſon were to become the rule of duty in any of the relations of life, for the light might ſpread till perfect day appeared. And when it did appear, how would men ſmile at the ſight of the bugbears at which they ſtarted during the night of ignorance, or the twilight of timid inquiry.

Parental affection, indeed, in many minds, is but a pretext to tyrannize where it can be done with impunity, for only good and wiſe men are content with the reſpect that will bear diſcuſſion. Convinced that they have a right to what they inſiſt on, they do not fear reaſon, or dread the ſifting of ſubjects that recur to natural juſtice: becauſe they firmly believe that the more enlightened the human mind becomes the deeper root will juſt and ſimple principles take. They do not reſt in expedients, or grant that what is metaphyſically true can be practically falſe; but diſdaining the ſhifts of the moment they calmly wait till time, ſanctioning innovation, ſilences the hiſs of ſelfiſhneſs or envy.

If the power of reflecting on the paſt, and darting the keen eye of contemplation into futurity, be the grand privilege of man, it muſt be granted that ſome people enjoy this prerogative in a very limited degree. Every thing now appears to them wrong; and not able to diſtinguiſh the poſſible from the monſtrous, they fear where no fear ſhould find a place, running from the light of reaſon, as if it were a firebrand; yet the limits of the poſſible have never been defined to ſtop the ſturdy innovator's hand.

Woman, however, a ſlave in every ſituation to prejudice, ſeldom exerts enlightened maternal affection; for ſhe either neglects her children, or ſpoils them by improper indulgence. Beſides, the affection of ſome women for their children is, as I have before termed it, frequently very brutiſh: for it eradicates every ſpark of humanity. Juſtice, truth, every thing is ſacrificed by theſe Rebekah's, and for the ſake of their *own* children they violate the moſt ſacred duties, forgetting the common relationſhip that binds the whole family on earth together. Yet, reaſon ſeems to ſay, that they who ſuffer one duty, or affection, to ſwallow up the reſt, have not ſufficient